Hadith al-Kisa

The Event of the Cloak

Under the Guidance of Moulana Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

Marḥūmīn Dedication

Please recite a Sūrah al-Fātiḥah for Habib Jaffer, Nargis daughter of Ghulam Ali Lakhani, Haider Ali Mohammad Ali Zahed, Muneera Zahed Rajab Ali Shariff, Munawar Ali Abbas, and for the marḥūmīn of those who worked on this book.

Dedication

This booklet is dedicated to the beloved Imām of our time (ʿaj). May Allah (swt) hasten his reappearance and help us to become his true companions.

It is also dedicated to all the wonderful women, mothers, daughters, wives and grandmothers in our community — may they walk in the footsteps of the leader of the women in the world, Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa).

Preface

It is human nature to look for role models and examples to learn and gain from. Oftentimes, the role models that we look for are imperfect and have flaws. Allah (swt), in His infinite mercy has provided perfect role models in the form of a perfect family, wife, husband, grandparent, son and daughter. This is beautifully elaborated in the event of Ḥadīth al-Kisāʾ, a story that brings with it blessings to recite, role models to follow and shows the status of the Ahl al-Bayt, all at once.

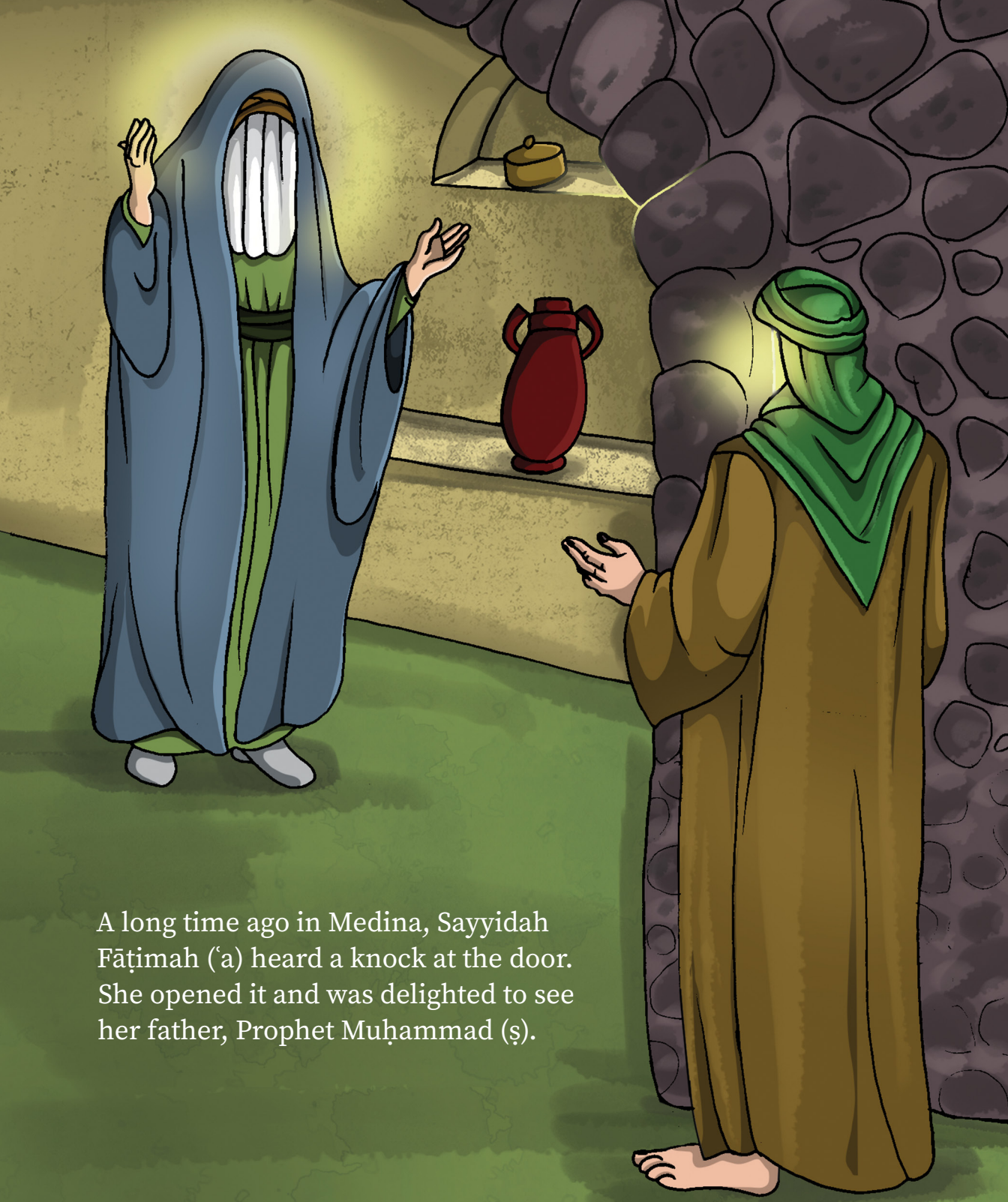
The event of the cloak revolves around Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa) as the center and the 'glue' that is connected to all the individuals in the cloak. Women are pivotal in shaping a family and a home, and their roles are central to family life and society.

This event also shows the beautiful akhlāq between the family members in the way in which they greet and converse with one another, using their highest achievable titles. Another wonderful example to emulate!

This story can also be found in the Steps to Perfection Curriculum.

With Duʿās,
Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

Disclaimer: Religious texts have not been translated verbatim so as to meet the developmental and comprehension needs of children.



A long time ago in Medina, Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa) heard a knock at the door. She opened it and was delighted to see her father, Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ).

He greeted her by saying,
“Salāmun ʿalaykum,”

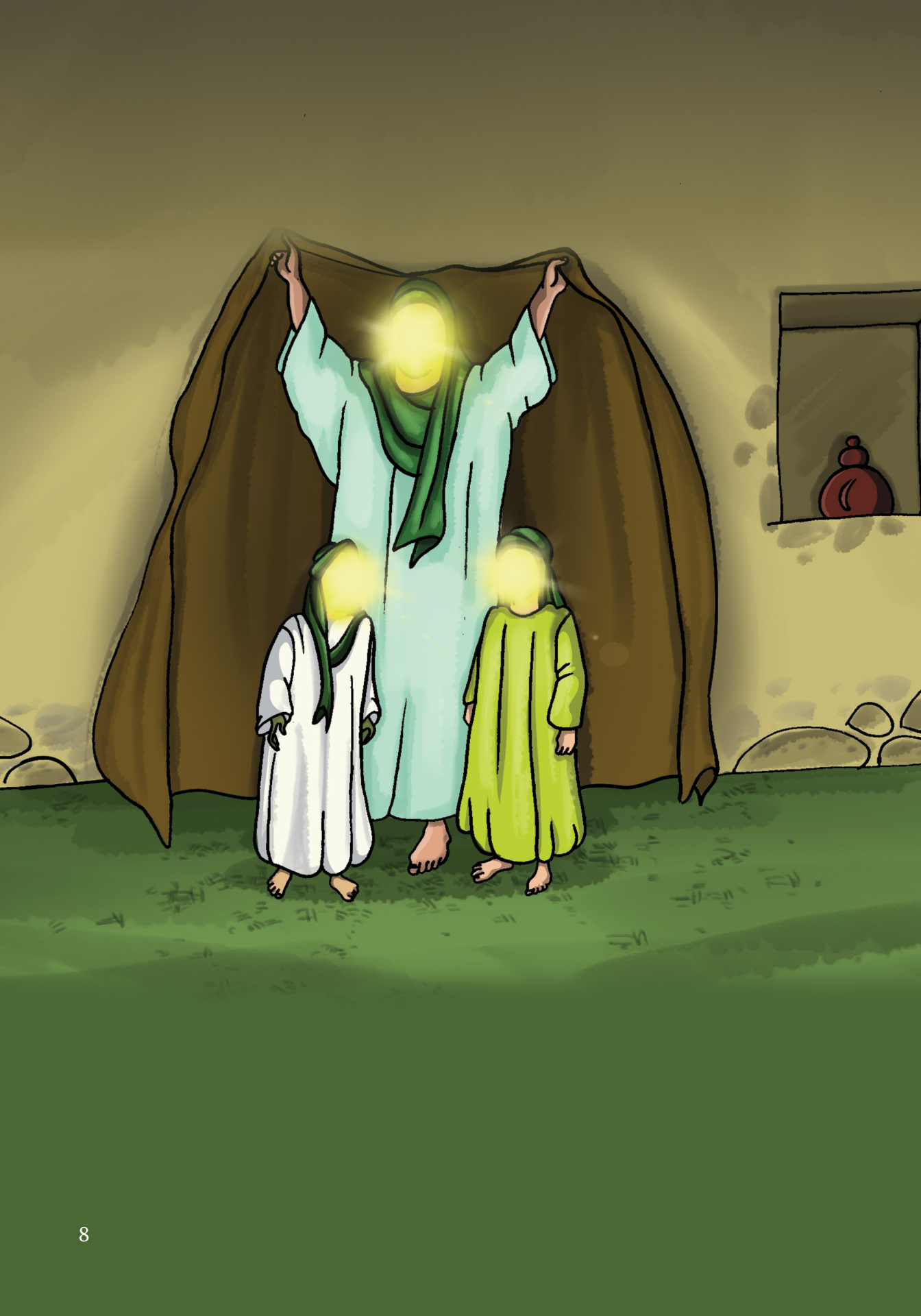
and she replied,
“Wa ʿalaykum salām.”

Her father wasn’t feeling well, so Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa) asked Allah to help her father feel better. As the Prophet(ṣ) entered her home, he asked his daughter for a ‘kisāʾ,’ or a cloak, to cover himself with.

Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa) gave her father the kisāʾ and covered him with it. As she was covering him, she began to notice his face was shining bright like a full moon!

After some time, Sayyidah Fāṭimah's (ʿa) son Imām Ḥasan (ʿa) came in with such excitement and said, "Salāmun ʿalaykum, O Mother, what is that sweet smell? Is it my grandfather?" She replied, "Wa ʿalaykum salām, O light of my eyes, and the delight of my heart. Yes, he is resting underneath the kisāʾ."

Imām Ḥasan (ʿa) then went to the kisāʾ and greeted his grandfather, "Salāmun ʿalaykum, O Grandfather, can I come under the kisāʾ with you?" His grandfather replied, "Wa ʿalaykum salām, my son and the master of my fountain (Kauthar), yes, please come under the kisāʾ with me."



Then, after a while, her other son Imām Ḥusayn (ʿa) came running into the room and exclaimed, "Salāmun ʿalaykum, O Mother, is that sweet perfume in the air my grandfather?" Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa) replied,

"Wa ʿalaykum salām, O light of my eyes, and the delight of my heart. Yes, he is under the kisāʾ."

Imām Ḥusayn (ʿa) then went to the kisāʾ and said, "Salāmun ʿalaykum, O Grandfather, may I please come in?" The Prophet (ṣ) replied with kindness, "Wa ʿalaykum salām, my son and interceder of my followers. Yes, please come in."

Soon after Imām ʿAlī (ʿa), walked over to his wife and said, “Salāmun ʿalaykum, O Daughter of the Prophet (ṣ). I smell the sweetness of my brother and cousin, the Prophet (ṣ) of Allah.”

Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa) replied, “Wa ʿalaykum salām. Yes, you are right, O father of Hasan, and Commander of the Faithful." My father is under the kisāʾ with our two sons.”

Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) walked over to the kisāʾ and said, “Salāmun ʿalaykum, O Prophet (ṣ) of Allah, may I come under the kisāʾ?” The Prophet (ṣ) replied, “Wa ʿalaykum salām. Yes, my brother, successor, and standard bearer, please come in.”

Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa) looked over and saw that her two sons, husband, and father were all under the kisāʾ. She then walked toward the kisāʾ and asked her father, "O my dear father, may I come under the kisāʾ, too?" The Prophet (ṣ) of Allah replied, "Yes, my daughter, O part of myself, please come."

As soon as she entered, her father held both ends of the kisāʾ and raised his right hand toward the heavens and said the following duʾa:

"O Allah, these are the people of my family, my Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa). They are very special to me. Whoever hurts them, hurts me too. Whoever makes them sad, makes me sad too. I don't like the people who don't like them. I love the people who love them. I am the enemy of their enemies, and I am the friend of their friends. They are a part of me, and I am a part of them. O Allah! Send Your most special blessings and gifts upon me and upon them. And keep them away from impurity and keep them thoroughly pure."

In the Heavens, the Almighty Allah said to His angels, "O My angels! I have created the sky, the big Earth, the bright moon, the shining sun, the spinning planets, the flowing seas, and the sailing ships for the love of these five people lying underneath the kisāʾ."

Angel Jabrāʾīl asked, "O Allah! Who are those people under the kisāʾ?"

Allah answered,

"They are Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa), her father, her husband, and her two sons. They are the family of Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ) who will tell people about my message."

"O my Lord," Angel Jabrāʾīl asked, "Will You allow me to go down to Earth to be the sixth person under the kisāʾ?"

Allah the Almighty said, "Yes, I allow you."

Angel Jabrāʾīl went down and greeted the Prophet (ṣ), "Salāmun ʿalaykum, O Allah's Messenger (ṣ)! The Most High (Allah) sends His special salāms to you, and says, 'By My Greatness, I promise that I have only created the beautiful sky, large Earth, glowing moon, shining sun, spinning planets, flowing oceans, and sailing ships for your sake and for your love.'"

"He also allowed me to join you (under this kisāʾ). Will you, O Allah's Messenger (ṣ), allow me?"

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ) replied, "Wa ʿalaykum salām, O trusted bearer of Allah's revelations. Yes, I allow you."

So, Angel Jabrāʾīl joined them under the kisāʾ. He said to the Prophet (ṣ),

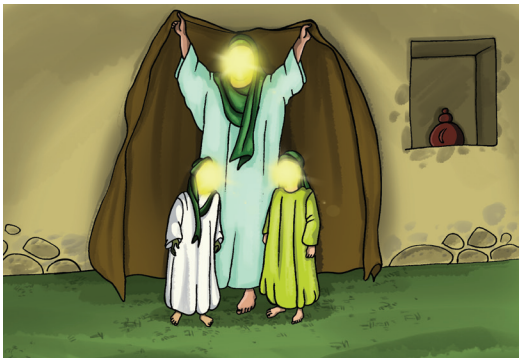
"Allah has said that He wishes to keep you away from impurities, the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa), and to keep you thoroughly purified."

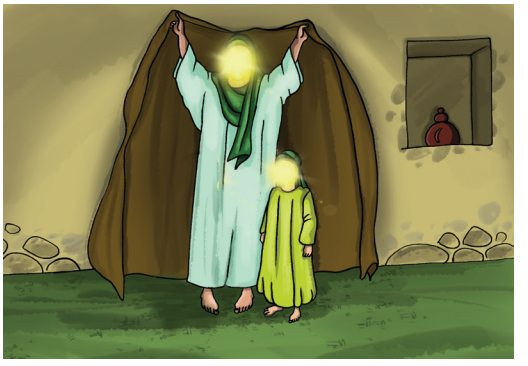
The Prophet (ṣ) said, "I swear by Allah that whenever this story of the kisāʾ is mentioned in a gathering of our believers and followers, Allah will certainly shower His blessings and gifts down on them, and the angels will surround them and ask for forgiveness for them until they leave that gathering."

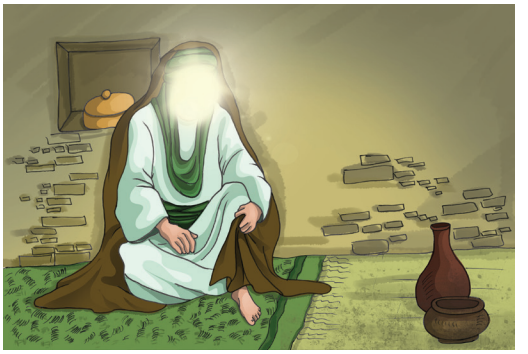
Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) then said, "Verily, by the Lord of Kaʿbah, we and our followers are the winners and the blessed, in this world and the next!"

This beautiful event of Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa) and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa) came to be known as the event of the kisāʾ.

Number the pictures from the story in order.







Find the names of the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa) in the word search below.

T C O H H D H H P

D J H U S A Y N Q

X F M S M M S V J

O F K I L M V A A

K K T A I A P U N

I A R L P H T R C

F A U I C U Q E B

B T K E X M Z L W

K C U I B F L M D

MUHAMMAD ALI FATIMAH

HASAN HUSAYN

*Please note that diacritic marks (e.g., ā, ī, ḥ) are not used for this word search. Instead, find the words without the marks.

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